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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Jonathan Stinson
Application No.:	10/037036
Filed:	October 25, 2001
For:	Balloon Expandable Polymer Stent With Reduced Elastic Recoil
Examiner:	Vi X Nguyen
Group Art Unit:	3731
Firm Docket No.:	S63.2B-9919-US01

DATE: November 15, 2006 **TIME:** 10:19 a.m. **FACSIMILE NO.:** 571-273-8300

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including transmittal letter): 7

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Following please find a(n) 6 page Amendment After Final; and 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

With respect to fees:
- No additional fee is believed to be required
- Charge any fee deficiency to our Deposit Account No. 22-0350

Conditional Petition

If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefore.

If any additional fees associated with this communication are required and have not otherwise been paid, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0350. Please credit overpayment associated with this communication to the Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Respectfully submitted,
VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: November 15, 2006

By: _____
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Heidi J. Steuter

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Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2B-9919-US01

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated **October 11, 2006.**

If an extension of time is required to make this response timely and no separate petition is enclosed, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time sufficient to make the response timely. In the event that this response requires the payment of government fees and payment is not enclosed, please charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Please amend the application as follows:

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Amendments To The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for forming a stent of a polymer material, the process comprising the steps of:

a) forming a generally tubular stent of said polymer material;

b) radially expanding the stent to produce an expanded diameter stent; and then,

c) annealing the expanded diameter stent to shrink its diameter to a reduced ~~diameter~~ diameter,

wherein the steps a) - c) are all performed prior to deployment of the stent in a body.

2. (Original) A process as in claim 1 further comprising at least one time repeating steps b) and c) in sequence.

3. (Original) A process as in claim 1 wherein in step a) the stent is formed by molding the polymer material.

4. (Original) A process as in claim 3 wherein the polymer material is thermoplastic.

5. (Original) A process as in claim 4 wherein the polymer material is biodegradable.

6. (Original) A process as in claim 1 wherein the polymer material is selected from the group consisting of poly(alpha-hydroxy acid), polylactic acid-polyethylene oxide copolymers; modified cellulose; collagen or other connective proteins; adhesive proteins; hyaluronic acid; polyanhydrides; polyphosphoesters; poly(amino acids); copolymers thereof; and mixtures of any of said materials.

7. (Original) A process as in claim 6 wherein the polymer material is a poly(alpha-hydroxy acid) selected from the group consisting of homopolymers and copolymers of polylactide (PLA), poly-L-lactide (PLLA), poly-D-lactide (PDLA), polyglycolide (PGA), polydioxanone, polycaprolactone, poly(hydroxybutyrate), polygluconate, and mixtures thereof.